

**DRAFT**  
**Minutes of the Population Technical Advisory Committee**

Friday, October 28, 2005  
Arizona Department of Economic Security  
Conference Room 104  
1717 West Jefferson Street  
Phoenix, Arizona

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Arizona State University – Tom Rex  
University of Arizona – Alberta Charney<sup>1</sup>  
Department of Economic Security – Linda Strock / Peter Kozy  
Department of Health Services – Christopher Mrela (for Richard Porter)  
Department of Transportation – Jami Garrison  
Department of Water Resources – John Fortune  
Maricopa Association of Governments – Harry Wolfe, Anubhav Bagley  
Pima Association of Governments – Kristen Zimmerman  
Northern Arizona Council of Governments – Chris Fetzer  
Central Arizona Association of Governments – Jack Tomasik  
SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization – Gene Weeks  
Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona – Norm Petersen  
League of Arizona Cities & Towns – Tom Belshe  
\* City of Phoenix – Tim Tilton  
\* State Land Department – Mila Hill  
\* Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization – Mack Luckie

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Northern Arizona University  
Department of Commerce  
Department of Education  
Department of Revenue  
Western Arizona Council of Governments  
County Supervisors Association of Arizona  
The Navajo Nation  
\*Department of Environmental Quality  
\*Department of Insurance

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Samuel Colón, Department of Economic Security  
Jeffrey Hirshenson, Department of Economic Security  
Susan Kanzler, Department of Economic Security  
John Fan, Department of Economic Security  
Allen Barnes, Department of Economic Security  
Karen Lamberton, Pima Association of Governments  
Warren Brown, PhD consultant on estimates and projections, Cornell University<sup>1</sup>

\*Non-voting member

<sup>1</sup>Participating by teleconference

**1. Call to Order.**

John Fortune (Department of Water Resources) called the meeting to order at 11:30 am. He asked for people to introduce themselves and state their names before making comments.

**2. Approval of Minutes of Prior POPTAC Meeting.**

John Fortune asked if there were any comments on the minutes from the prior meeting. There was no comment. John then called for a motion.

**Linda Strock moved and Jami Garrison seconded the motion to approve minutes as written from the June 3rd POPTAC meeting. The motion was approved.**

**3. New business.**

Kristen Zimmerman introduced herself as a new representative of PAG, replacing Sandy White.

**4. Open Meeting Law**

Linda Strock mentioned a link to the Attorney General's opinion on the Open Meeting Law. The Attorney General has advised public bodies not to use 'reply to all' on email. In addition, messages forwarded by members could result in violations associated with chain email or serial advocacy. Alberta Charney asked if distributing data applies. Linda Strock and Pete Kozy said no, as long as a statement of position is not taken on the data.

**5. Status of July 1, 2005 Estimates**

Linda Strock stated that county final draft estimates were not ready for POPTAC recommendation at this meeting because extra time has been taken to acquire more accurate information. In addition to the annual review of Housing Unit Method (HUM) inputs, local governments were given an extra opportunity to review all input data from 2000 to 2005, which significantly lengthened the review process. DES has built a web page of POPTAC work files that provides information on schedules, documentation of methods, input data and draft estimates and projections all in one place.

Pete Kozy reviewed the POPTAC Work Files page. He explained that work file formats will remain constant, the page URL will remain the same: [www.workforce.az.gov/?pageid=67&subid=208](http://www.workforce.az.gov/?pageid=67&subid=208), and that information on the work files will include status codes such as new, updated, draft, etc.

Audit activities are still underway and DES hopes to complete the audit process by the December meeting. DES has discovered that many jurisdictions submitted completions that the DES audit identified as permits issued. DES is conducting a survey of all jurisdictions to determine who submits completions versus permits issued, because each type of data is handled in its own way.

Warren Brown said that both Composite and HUM methods were used to produce the 2005 estimates. A series break was identified in the Motor Vehicle data used in the Composite Method and the process

of smoothing the MVD series break was explained. Dr. Brown agreed to test data smoothing by county rather than by state.

Chris Fetzer (NACOG) asked why we could not use HUM data exclusively since so many people understand it.

Tom Rex (ASU) said that we couldn't rely on just one estimation method because they all (HUM and Composite) have some kind of inherent flaw in them.

Mila Hill of the State Land Department reminded everyone that these figures are estimates and the limitations of the data must be recognized as a given.

Harry Wolfe of MAG asked when the 2005 estimates would be ready for review.

DES asked for input from the committee whether they preferred to receive the estimates two weeks in advance or wait until later pending any remaining updates to the data input. After discussion, DES agreed to distribute draft estimates two weeks before the December meeting.

Anubhav Bagley asked about abnormalities in the Medicare data. Warren Brown said there was no consistent Medicare data prior to 1999. A 9 month lag was used to estimate a 12 month lag.

Anubhav then asked why there was a lag on births. Warren said that complete data is better than preliminary data. Chris Mrela of DHS explained that the 2004 data was complete along with the first four months of 2005.

Jack Tomasik asked about the school enrollment data and whether it could be adjusted for the impact of Pinal County students attending schools in Maricopa County. DES did not know if enrollment data were available from Department of Education to make such an adjustment.

Tim Tilton of the City of Phoenix said that the state of Florida uses HUM exclusively.

Warren Brown explained that HUM works in Florida because of special data that Florida has available to use. It is a resource issue. Warren Brown explained again that in Arizona, the error for HUM and Composite is less than HUM error alone.

## **6. Status of 2006 – 2055 State and County Projections:**

Susan Kanzler explained that a new set of draft projections for 9 counties were available for review.

Jami Garrison asked if projection numbers will be adjusted for approved 2005 estimates.

Pete Kozy and Susan Kanzler of DES said yes.

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:00 pm.